

**Newport Township Fire Department**  
**1002 Center Street**  
**Wanamie PA 18634**  
**(570)735-2000**  
**Daniel J. Kowalski, Chief**

January 21, 2009

Michael A. Canova, Project Manager  
EPR Project Branch-Mailstop T-7E18  
Division of New Reactor Licensing  
Office of New Reactors  
11545 Rockville Pike  
Rockville, MD 20852-2738

1/06/09  
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Mr. Canova,

I would like to take this opportunity to express the support of my department to the endeavors of the PPL, Bell Bend Plant project.

The greatest reason for this support is the training and support we as an emergency services provider receive on a regular basis. We are well within the 10 mile EPZ and are very versed on emergency procedures as they pertain to the Nuclear Facility.

Because of this training and constant update, my staff were able to successfully evacuate 2 communities in a situation unrelated to the power plant. In 1987, a chemical processing plant located in our neighboring town, caught fire and exploded in the middle of the night, releasing several toxic compounds. If not for the training received from PPL, we would have no idea how to even begin such an undertaking. As it stood, and still stands, we knew exactly what we needed to do. The entire evacuation went off without any problems. Within a few days all residents were allowed to return.

I do not even know how to put a value on the training received. In the case mentioned, it was priceless!

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In the beginning the residents we protect were afraid and skeptical. The track record of the plant, and the support PPL gives to the community has changed their attitude immensely.

Nuclear energy has proven to be a safe and clean source of energy. Our residents have spent their lives in the coal industry; quite frankly, we are in the center of coal country. The fact that these people are convinced of the value of nuclear energy is a clear indication that PPL has been a "Good Neighbor".

I would gladly elaborate on how we feel about this project; I hope I was able to convey our feelings toward this expansion. In fact, we would like to see this one built, and you could put another one right here in Newport Township as well.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dan J. Kowalski". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Daniel J. Kowalski, Chief  
Luzerne County Station 163